

ARTICLE 61-09

PRESCRIPTION DRUG INVENTORY OF AMBULANCE SERVICES

Chapter

- 61-09-01 Prescription Drug Inventory of Ambulance Services
- 61-09-02 Prescription Drug Inventory of Nursing Supply Kits

CHAPTER 61-09-01

PRESCRIPTION DRUG INVENTORY OF AMBULANCE SERVICES

Section

- 61-09-01-01 Prescription Drug Safeguard and Control Policy
- 61-09-01-02 Requirement of Supplier of Ambulance Service Drugs

61-09-01-01. Prescription drug safeguard and control policy. Each ambulance service shall adopt a written prescription drug safeguard policy which, as a condition precedent to obtaining prescription drugs for ambulance service purposes, at a minimum, must include the following requirements:

1. All prescription drugs must be obtained from a licensed pharmacy or registered pharmacist, which may include a hospital pharmacy. The prescription drugs must be the property of the pharmacy or pharmacist and not the property of the ambulance service.
2. The initial inventory of prescription drugs must be obtained by an ambulance service only upon the written authorization of the ambulance service's medical director who must be a "practitioner" as defined by subsection 17 of North Dakota Century Code section 43-15-01.
3. The pharmacist-in-charge of the licensed pharmacy or the registered pharmacist must be responsible for the security and accountability of the prescription drug inventory obtained by an ambulance service.
4. Dispensing or administration of all prescription drugs must be pursuant to a standing order, oral instructions, or prescription of a practitioner.
5. All medications administered must be promptly documented on a written prescription, signed by the prescribing practitioner or the advanced life support medical director on a monthly basis.
6. All replacement of prescription drugs must be documented on a written prescription and signed by a practitioner.
7. Expired, damaged, or unused prescription drugs must be returned to a licensed pharmacy or pharmacist. The pharmacist, on a monthly basis, shall either check the drug box or review a perpetual inventory for expired drugs.

8. Replacement of lost, stolen, or misused prescription drugs requires written authorization of the ambulance service's medical director.
9. At the beginning of each shift, ambulance (advanced life support) personnel shall conduct a checklist procedure to verify that the drug boxes contain all the required items and that the controlled substances are intact. The checklist procedure is not complete until it is signed by the individuals responsible for possible use of the drug boxes.
10. Controlled substances must be sealed in a double lock secure system. A record separate from the other prescription drugs is to be kept. Documentation on a duplicate form should include:
 - a. Patient's name and address (if available);
 - b. Medication and strength or amount given;
 - c. Date;
 - d. Physician's name; and
 - e. The signature of the individual administering the controlled substance.
11. Any unused portion of a prescription drug must be returned for disposal or destruction to the emergency room where the patient is being brought for care. The return of the unused prescription drug should be documented in writing at the emergency room by the ambulance personnel and cosigned by a registered pharmacist or registered nurse as a witness.
12. When a controlled substance needs replacement, a copy of the completed form with the necessary documentation is to be given to the licensed pharmacy or registered pharmacist, preferably the same facility where the original supply was obtained. This will ensure better control of the dispensing of these controlled substances. A form with serial and unit numbers must create an audit trail to account for all drugs and control sheets dispensed.

History: Effective July 1, 1990.

General Authority: NDCC 28-32-02, 43-15-10(12), 43-15-10(14)

Law Implemented: NDCC 28-32-03

61-09-01-02. Requirement of supplier of ambulance service drugs.

The pharmacist-in-charge of the licensed pharmacy or the pharmacist supplying prescription drugs to an ambulance service, prior to supplying said drugs, shall review the written prescription drug safeguard policy of the ambulance service to determine that all of section 61-09-01-01 requirements are contained therein and that the ambulance service is complying with those requirements. No prescription

drugs may be supplied to an ambulance service if the requirements of section 61-09-01-01 are not contained in the written prescription drug safeguard policy or if the ambulance service is not in compliance with these requirements.

History: Effective July 1, 1990.

General Authority: NDCC 28-32-02, 43-15-10(12), 43-15-10(14)

Law Implemented: NDCC 28-32-03